

# DE CONCINI-KAC FILTRATION AND GELFAND-TSETLIN CHARACTERS FOR QUANTUM $\mathfrak{gl}_N$

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**ABSTRACT.** It was shown by the first author and Ovsienko [FO1] that the universal enveloping algebra of  $\mathfrak{gl}_N$  is a Galois order, that is, it has a hidden invariant skew group structure. We extend this result to the quantized case and prove that  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is a Galois order over its Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra. This leads to a parameterization of finite families of isomorphism classes of irreducible Gelfand-Tsetlin modules for  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  by the characters of Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra. In particular, any character of the Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra extends to an irreducible Gelfand-Tsetlin module over  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  and, moreover, extends uniquely when such character is generic. We also obtain a proof of the fact that the Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra of  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is maximal commutative, as previously conjectured by Mazorchuk and Turowska.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

An important class of associative algebras, called *Galois orders* was introduced in [FO1]. This class of algebras includes for example Generalized Weyl algebras over integral domains with infinite order automorphisms (e.g. the  $n$ -th Weyl algebra  $A_n$ , the quantum plane,  $q$ -deformed Heisenberg algebra, quantized Weyl algebras, Witten-Woronowicz algebra ([B], [BO])); the universal enveloping algebra of  $\mathfrak{gl}_n$  over the Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra ([DFO1], [DFO2]), associated shifted Yangians and finite  $W$ -algebras ([FMO2], [FMO1]).

These algebras contain a special commutative subalgebra which allows one to embed the algebra into a certain invariant subalgebra of some skew group algebra. In particular, such an embedding enables the computation of the skew field of fractions ([FMO2], [FH]). Representation theory of Galois orders was developed in [FO2]. If  $U$  is a Galois order over its commutative subalgebra  $\Gamma$  then one considers a category of Gelfand-Tsetlin  $U$ -modules which are direct sums of finite-dimensional  $\Gamma$ -modules parameterized by the maximal ideals of  $\Gamma$ . The set of isomorphism classes of irreducible Gelfand-Tsetlin modules extended from a given maximal ideal  $\mathfrak{m}$  of  $\Gamma$  is called the *fiber* of  $\mathfrak{m}$ . In the case in which fibers consist of single isomorphism classes, the corresponding irreducible Gelfand-Tsetlin modules are parameterized by the elements of  $\text{Specm } \Gamma$  (up to some equivalence).

A natural choice of a commutative subalgebra in many associative algebras is a so-called Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra. Classical Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebras of the universal enveloping algebras of a simple Lie algebras were considered in [FM], [Vi], [KW1], [KW2], [G1], [G2] among the others.

Gelfand-Tsetlin modules were studied in [O1] for  $\mathfrak{gl}_n$ , in [FMO2] for restricted Yangians of  $\mathfrak{gl}_n$  and in [FMO1] for arbitrary finite  $W$ -algebras of type  $A$ .

In this paper we extend these results to  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ . This algebra contains a quantum analog of the Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra of  $U(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ , which we denote by  $\Gamma_q$ .

Based on the properties of so called generic Gelfand-Tsetlin modules obtained in [MT], it was shown in [FH] that  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is a Galois ring with respect to  $\Gamma_q$ . This allowed us to prove the quantum Gelfand-Kirillov conjecture for  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  ([FH],[F]).

Note that unlike all the examples listed above,  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is a Galois rings with respect to a subalgebra which not a polynomial algebra. Our first main result is the following.

**Theorem I.**  *$U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is a Galois order with respect to the Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra.*

The technique used to prove Theorem I is based on the RTT-realization of  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  ([J],[KS]) and the De Concini-Kac filtration.

It was conjectured Mazorchuk and Turowska [MT] that  $\Gamma_q$  is a maximal commutative subalgebra of  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ . As consequence of Theorem I we obtain a proof of this fact.

**Theorem II.** *The Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra of  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is maximal commutative.*

Using the representation theory of Galois orders from [FO2] we obtain our third main result.

**Theorem III.** *The fiber of any  $\mathbf{m} \in \text{Specm } \Gamma_q$  in the category of Gelfand-Tsetlin modules over  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is non-empty and finite.*

Another consequence of [FO2] and Theorem I above is that for a generic  $\mathbf{m}$  (i.e. from some dense subset of  $\text{Specm } \Gamma_q$ ), there exists a unique (up to isomorphism) irreducible  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ -module in the fiber of  $\mathbf{m}$ . This was established previously in [MT], because all such modules are *generic Gelfand-Tsetlin modules* in the terminology of [MT].

Similarly to the case of finite  $W$ -algebras of type  $A$  [FMO2], we make the following conjecture about the cardinality of fibers for arbitrary  $\mathbf{m}$ . We show that the conjecture is valid for  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_2)$ .

**Conjecture.** *For any  $\mathbf{m} \in \text{Specm } \Gamma_q$ , the fiber of  $\mathbf{m}$  consists of at most*

$$2^{N(N-1)/2} (1!2! \dots (N-1)!)$$

*isomorphism classes of irreducible Gelfand-Tsetlin  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ -modules. The same bound holds for the dimension of the subspace  $V(\mathbf{m})$  in any irreducible Gelfand-Tsetlin module  $V$ .*

**Notation.**  $\llbracket a, b \rrbracket$  denotes the set  $\{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a \leq x \leq b\}$ . The cardinality of a set  $S$  is denoted  $\#S$ . Throughout this paper, the ground field is  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $q \in \mathbb{C}$  is nonzero and not a root of unity. We put  $\mathbb{C}^\times = \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$ .

## 2. THE ALGEBRA $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$

In this section we recall some facts about the quantized enveloping algebra  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  which will be used.

**2.1. Definition.** For positive integers  $N$  we let  $U_N = U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  denote the unital associative  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra with generators  $E_i^\pm, K_j, K_j^{-1}, i \in \llbracket 1, N-1 \rrbracket, j \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket$  and

relations [KS, p.163]

$$\begin{aligned}
K_i K_i^{-1} &= K_i^{-1} K_i = 1, \quad [K_i, K_j] = 0, \quad \forall i, j \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket, \\
K_i E_j^\pm K_i^{-1} &= q^{\pm(\delta_{ij} - \delta_{i,j+1})} E_j^\pm, \quad \forall i \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket, \forall j \in \llbracket 1, N-1 \rrbracket, \\
[E_i^+, E_j^-] &= \delta_{ij} \frac{K_i K_{i+1}^{-1} - K_{i+1} K_i^{-1}}{q - q^{-1}}, \quad \forall i, j \in \llbracket 1, N-1 \rrbracket, \\
[E_i^\pm, E_j^\pm] &= 0, \quad |i - j| > 1, \\
(E_i^\pm)^2 E_j^\pm - (q + q^{-1}) E_i^\pm E_j^\pm E_i^\pm + E_j^\pm (E_i^\pm)^2 &= 0, \quad |i - j| = 1.
\end{aligned}$$

**2.2. De Concini-Kac filtration.** [BG, Section I.6.11] Let  $\alpha_i = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_{i+1}$ ,  $i \in \llbracket 1, N-1 \rrbracket$  be the standard simple roots of  $\mathfrak{gl}_N$  where  $\varepsilon_i(\text{diag}(a_1, \dots, a_N)) = a_i$ . Fix the following decomposition of the longest Weyl group element:

$$w_0 = s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_M} = (s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{N-1})(s_1 s_2 \cdots s_{N-2}) \cdots (s_1 s_2) s_1, \quad (2.1)$$

where  $s_i = (i \ i+1) \in S_N$ , and  $M = N(N-1)/2$ . Let  $\{\beta_j = s_{i_1} \cdots s_{i_{j-1}}(\alpha_{i_j})\}_{j=1}^M$  be the corresponding enumeration of positive roots of  $\mathfrak{gl}_N$ . One checks that

$$(\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_M) = (\beta_{12}, \beta_{13}, \dots, \beta_{1N}, \beta_{23}, \beta_{24}, \dots, \beta_{2N}, \dots, \beta_{N-1,N}), \quad (2.2)$$

where  $\beta_{ij} = \varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j$  for all  $i, j \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket$ ,  $i < j$ . Let  $E_{\beta_i}, F_{\beta_i} \in U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  be the corresponding positive and negative root vectors (see e.g. [BG, Section I.6.8]). The following PBW theorem for  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is well-known:

**Theorem 2.1.** *The set of ordered monomials*

$$F^r K_\lambda E^k := F_{\beta_1}^{r_1} \cdots F_{\beta_M}^{r_M} \cdot K_1^{\lambda_1} \cdots K_N^{\lambda_N} \cdot E_{\beta_1}^{k_1} \cdots E_{\beta_M}^{k_M} \quad (2.3)$$

where  $r, k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^M$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Z}^N$ , form a basis for  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ .

Define the *total degree* of a monomial  $F^r K_\lambda E^k$  to be

$$d(F^r K_\lambda E^k) = (k_M, \dots, k_1, r_1, \dots, r_M, \text{ht}(F^r K_\lambda E^k)) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{2M+1}, \quad (2.4)$$

where

$$\text{ht}(F^r K_\lambda E^k) = \sum_{j=1}^M (k_j + r_j) \text{ht}(\beta_j) \quad (2.5)$$

and  $\text{ht}(\beta) = \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} a_i$  if  $\beta = \sum_{i=1}^{N-1} a_i \alpha_i$ . Equip the monoid  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{2M+1}$  with the lexicographical order uniquely determined by the inequalities

$$u_1 < u_2 < \cdots < u_M$$

where  $u_i = (0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$  with 1 on the  $i$ :th position.

**Theorem 2.2** (De Concini-Kac). *The total degree function  $d$  defined above equips  $U = U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  with a  $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{2M+1}$ -filtration  $\{U_{(k)}\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{2M+1}}$ . The associated graded algebra  $\text{gr } U$  is the  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra on the generators*

$$\bar{E}_{\beta_i}, \bar{F}_{\beta_j}, \bar{K}_\lambda$$

$i = 1, \dots, M$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{Z}^N$  subject to the following defining relations:

$$\begin{aligned}
\bar{K}_\alpha \bar{K}_\beta &= \bar{K}_{\alpha+\beta} & \bar{K}_0 &= 1 \\
\bar{K}_\alpha \bar{E}_{\beta_i} &= q^{(\alpha, \beta_i)} \bar{E}_{\beta_i} \bar{K}_\alpha & \bar{K}_\alpha \bar{F}_{\beta_i} &= q^{-(\alpha, \beta_i)} \bar{F}_{\beta_i} \bar{K}_\alpha \\
\bar{E}_{\beta_i} \bar{F}_{\beta_j} &= \bar{F}_{\beta_j} \bar{E}_{\beta_i} \\
\bar{E}_{\beta_i} \bar{E}_{\beta_j} &= q^{(\beta_i, \beta_j)} \bar{E}_{\beta_j} \bar{E}_{\beta_i} & \bar{F}_{\beta_i} \bar{F}_{\beta_j} &= q^{(\beta_i, \beta_j)} \bar{F}_{\beta_j} \bar{F}_{\beta_i}
\end{aligned} \quad (2.6)$$

for  $\alpha, \beta \in Q$  and  $1 \leq i, j \leq M$ .

*Proof.* That  $d$  actually defines a filtration follows from the commutation relation known as the *Levendorskiĭ-Soibelman straightening rule* [LS, Proposition 5.5.2]. See [DK, Proposition 1.7] for details.  $\square$

Observe that the root vectors  $E_\alpha, F_\alpha$ , hence the De Concini-Kac filtration, depend on the choice of decomposition of the longest Weyl group element.

A simple but important corollary which will be used implicitly throughout is that

$$d(ab) = d(a) + d(b) = d(ba) \quad (2.7)$$

for all  $a, b \in U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ , where now  $d(a)$  denotes the smallest  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{M+1}$  such that  $a \in U_{(k)}$ . This follows from the fact that the associated graded algebra is a domain.

**2.3. RTT presentation.**  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  has an alternative presentation. It is isomorphic to the algebra with generators  $t_{ij}, \bar{t}_{ij}, i, j \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket$  and relations

$$t_{ij} = 0 = \bar{t}_{ji}, \quad \forall i < j, \quad (2.8a)$$

$$t_{ii}\bar{t}_{ii} = 1 = \bar{t}_{ii}t_{ii}, \quad \forall i, \quad (2.8b)$$

$$q^{\delta_{ij}} t_{ia} t_{jb} - q^{\delta_{ab}} t_{jb} t_{ia} = (q - q^{-1})(\delta_{b < a} - \delta_{i < j}) t_{ja} t_{ib} \quad (2.8c)$$

$$q^{\delta_{ij}} \bar{t}_{ia} \bar{t}_{jb} - q^{\delta_{ab}} \bar{t}_{jb} \bar{t}_{ia} = (q - q^{-1})(\delta_{b < a} - \delta_{i < j}) \bar{t}_{ja} \bar{t}_{ib} \quad (2.8d)$$

$$q^{\delta_{ij}} \bar{t}_{ia} t_{jb} - q^{\delta_{ab}} t_{jb} \bar{t}_{ia} = (q - q^{-1})(\delta_{b < a} t_{ja} \bar{t}_{ib} - \delta_{i < j} \bar{t}_{ja} t_{ib}) \quad (2.8e)$$

for all  $i, a, j, b \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket$ . An identification of the two sets of generators is given by [KS, Section 8.5.4]:

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{t}_{ii} &= K_i^{-1} & t_{ii} &= K_i \\ \bar{t}_{i, i+1} &= (q - q^{-1}) K_i^{-1} E_i & t_{i+1, i} &= -(q - q^{-1}) F_i K_i \\ \bar{t}_{ij} &= (q - q^{-1}) (-1)^{i-j+1} K_i^{-1} E_{\beta_{ij}} & t_{ji} &= -(q - q^{-1}) F_{\beta_{ij}} K_i \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

for  $j > i + 1$ , where  $E_{\beta_{ij}}, F_{\beta_{ij}}$  are the root vectors, defined previously in Section 2.2.

**2.4. Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra.** Let  $U_q = U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ . It is immediate by the defining relations that, for each  $r \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket$ , the subalgebra  $U_q^{(r)}$  of  $U_q$  generated by  $E_i, F_i, K_j$  for  $i \in \llbracket 1, r-1 \rrbracket, j \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$  (or equivalently, by  $t_{ij}, \bar{t}_{ij}$  for  $i, j \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$ ) can be identified with  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_r)$ . Thus we have a chain of subalgebras

$$U_q^{(1)} \subset U_q^{(2)} \subset \dots \subset U_q^{(N)} = U_q.$$

Let  $Z_r$  denote the center of  $U_q^{(r)}$ . The subalgebra of  $U_q$  generated by  $Z_1, \dots, Z_N$  is called the *Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra* and will be denoted by  $\Gamma_q$ . It is immediate that  $\Gamma_q$  is commutative.

In [MH, Section 5] it is proved that  $Z_r$  is generated by the coefficients of the following polynomial in  $U_q^{(r)}[u^{-1}]$ :

$$z_r(u) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_r} (-q)^{-l(\sigma)} \prod_{j=1}^r (t_{\sigma(j)j} - \bar{t}_{\sigma(j)j} q^{2(j-1)} u^{-1}). \quad (2.10)$$

It will be useful to rewrite this polynomial in a different way. For this purpose it will be convenient to use the notation

$$t_{ij}^{(k)} = \begin{cases} t_{ij}, & k = 0, \\ \bar{t}_{ij}, & k = 1. \end{cases} \quad (2.11)$$

A direct computation gives that

$$z_r(u) = \sum_{s=0}^r (-1)^r d_{rs} (q^2 u)^{-s}, \quad (2.12)$$

where

$$d_{rs} = \sum_{\sigma \in S_r} (-q)^{-l(\sigma)} \sum_{k \in \{0,1\}^r: \sum k_i = s} q^{2(k_1 + 2k_2 + \dots + rk_r)} t_{\sigma(1)1}^{(k_1)} \dots t_{\sigma(r)r}^{(k_r)}. \quad (2.13)$$

Observe that  $d_{r0} = d_{rr}^{-1}$ . Therefore, the (commuting) elements  $d_{rs}$ ,  $1 \leq s \leq r \leq N$ , generate  $\Gamma_q$ , provided we allow taking negative powers of  $d_{rr}$ . In Lemma 2.5 we show that these generators are algebraically independent.

**2.5. Realization of  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  as a Galois  $\Gamma$ -ring.** We recall the definition of a *Galois ring* from [FO1]. Let  $\Gamma$  be an integral domain,  $K$  be its field of fractions,  $L$  be a finite Galois extension of  $K$ , and  $G = \text{Gal}(L/K)$  be the Galois group. Let  $G$  act by conjugation on  $\text{Aut}(L)$  and let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a  $G$ -invariant submonoid of  $\text{Aut}(L)$ . We require  $\mathcal{M}$  to be  $K$ -separating, meaning  $m_1|_K = m_2|_K \Rightarrow m_1 = m_2$  for  $m_1, m_2 \in \mathcal{M}$ . The action of  $G$  on  $L$  and on  $\mathcal{M}$  (by conjugations) extends uniquely to an action of  $G$  on the skew monoid ring  $L * \mathcal{M}$  by ring automorphisms. Let  $\mathcal{K} = (L * \mathcal{M})^G$  denote the subring of invariants.

**Definition 2.3** (Galois ring). A finitely generated  $\Gamma$ -subring  $U$  of  $\mathcal{K}$  is called a *Galois  $\Gamma$ -ring* if  $UK = KU = \mathcal{K}$ .

Let  $U_q = U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ , and  $q$  is not a root of unity. We recall the realization of  $U_q$  as a Galois ring obtained in [FH]. Let  $\Lambda_m = \mathbb{C}[X_{m1}^{\pm 1}, \dots, X_{mm}^{\pm 1}]$  be a Laurent polynomial algebra in  $m$  variables and put  $\Lambda = \Lambda_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \Lambda_N \simeq \mathbb{C}[X_{mi}^{\pm 1} \mid 1 \leq i \leq m \leq N]$ . Let  $L$  be the field of fractions of  $\Lambda$ . Let  $W_m$  be the Weyl group of type  $D_m$ , i.e.  $W_m = S_m \ltimes \mathcal{E}_m$  where  $\mathcal{E}_m = \{\alpha \in (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^m \mid \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_m = 0\}$  with the natural  $S_m$ -action. Let  $G = \prod_{m=1}^N W_m$ . Then  $G$  acts on  $L$  by

$$g(X_{mi}) = (-1)^{\alpha_{mi}} X_{m\zeta_m(i)}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m \leq N, \quad (2.14)$$

for  $g = (\zeta_1 \alpha_1, \dots, \zeta_N \alpha_N) \in G$  where  $\zeta_m \in S_m$ ,  $\alpha_m = (\alpha_{m1}, \dots, \alpha_{mm}) \in \mathcal{E}_m$ . Let  $\Gamma = \Lambda^G$ , and  $K = \text{Frac}(\Gamma)$ . Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be the subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(L)$  generated by the set  $\{\delta^{mi}\}_{1 \leq i \leq m \leq N-1}$ , where  $\delta^{mi} \in \text{Aut}(L)$  is given by  $\delta^{mi} X_{kj} = q^{-\delta_{mk} \delta_{ij}} X_{kj}$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq m \leq N-1$  and  $1 \leq j \leq k \leq N$ . Clearly  $\mathcal{M} \simeq \mathbb{Z}^{N(N-1)/2}$ , since  $q$  is not a root of unity. One verifies that  $\mathcal{M}$  is  $G$ -invariant.

Let  $\mathcal{K} = (L * \mathcal{M})^G$ . The following theorem shows that  $U_q$  is isomorphic to a Galois  $\Gamma$ -ring in  $\mathcal{K}$ .

**Theorem 2.4** ([FH]). (i) *There exists an injective  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra homomorphism*

$$\varphi : U_q \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}$$

*determined by*

$$\varphi(E_m^{\pm}) = \sum_{i=1}^N (\pm \delta^{mi}) A_{mi}^{\pm}, \quad \varphi(K_m) = A_m^0 e \quad (2.15)$$

where  $e \in \mathcal{M}$  is the neutral element, and  $A_{mi}^\pm, A_m^0 \in L$  are given by

$$A_{mi}^\pm = \mp(q - q^{-1})^{-1} \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{m \pm 1} (X_{m \pm 1, j} X_{mi}^{-1} - X_{m \pm 1, j}^{-1} X_{mi})}{\prod_{j \in \{1, \dots, m\} \setminus \{i\}} (X_{mj} X_{mi}^{-1} - X_{mj}^{-1} X_{mi})}, \quad (2.16)$$

$$A_m^0 = q^m \prod_{i=1}^m X_{mi} \prod_{i=1}^{m-1} X_{m-1, i}^{-1}; \quad (2.17)$$

- (ii)  $UK = KU = \mathcal{K}$ , where  $U = \varphi(U_q)$ ;
- (iii)  $\mathcal{M}$  is  $K$ -separating;
- (iv)  $L$  is a finite Galois extension of  $K$  with Galois group  $\text{Gal}(L/K) = G$ ;
- (v)  $\varphi(Z_m) = \Lambda_m^{W_m}$  for each  $m \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket$  and  $\varphi(\Gamma_q) = \Gamma = \Lambda^G$ , where  $Z_m = Z(U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m))$  and  $\Gamma_q$  is the Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra of  $U_q$ ;
- (vi) The restriction of  $\varphi$  to  $Z_m$  can be identified with the quantum Harish-Chandra homomorphism:

$$\varphi|_{Z_m} = \xi_m^{-1} \circ h_m,$$

where  $\xi : \Lambda_m \rightarrow U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_m)$ ,  $\xi(X_{mi}) = q^{-i} K_i$  and  $h_m : Z_m \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[K_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, K_m^{\pm 1}]$  is the quantum Harish-Chandra homomorphism.

*Proof.* See [FH, Propositions 5.9-5.14].  $\square$

We now prove that the generators  $d_{rs}$  from (2.13) are algebraically independent.

**Lemma 2.5.**

$$\Gamma_q \simeq \mathbb{C}[d_{rs} \mid 1 \leq s \leq r \leq N][d_{rr}^{-1} \mid 1 \leq r \leq N]. \quad (2.18)$$

*Proof.* By applying the quantum Harish-Chandra isomorphism  $h_r : Z_r \rightarrow (U_r^0)^{W_r}$  (see [FH, Lemma 5.3]) to the polynomial  $z_r(u)$  from (2.10) (as in [MH, Section 5]) we get

$$\begin{aligned} h_r(z_r(u)) &= (K_1 - K_1^{-1}u^{-1})(K_2 - q^2 K_2^{-1}u^{-1}) \cdots (K_r - q^{2(r-1)} K_r^{-1}u^{-1}) \\ &= q^{r(r+1)} (K_1 \cdots K_r)^{-1} \prod_{j=1}^r (q^{-2j} K_j^2 - (q^2 u)^{-1}) \end{aligned}$$

So

$$h_r(d_{rs}) = q^{r(r+1)/2} (\tilde{K}_1 \cdots \tilde{K}_r)^{-1} \cdot e_{rs}(\tilde{K}_1^2, \dots, \tilde{K}_r^2), \quad r \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket, s \in \llbracket 0, r \rrbracket$$

where  $\tilde{K}_i = q^{-i} K_i$ , and  $e_{rs}$  is the elementary symmetric polynomial in  $r$  variables of degree  $s$ . By the proof of [FH, Lemma 5.3], this shows that

$$Z_r \simeq \mathbb{C}[d_{rs} \mid s = 1, 2, \dots, r][d_{rr}^{-1}]. \quad (2.19)$$

Recall that  $\Lambda^G \simeq \Lambda_1^{W_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \Lambda_N^{W_N}$ . Let  $\varphi : U \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$  be the map from Theorem 2.4. By parts (i) and (v) of that theorem,  $\varphi$  restricts to an isomorphism  $\varphi|_{\Gamma_q} : \Gamma_q \rightarrow \Lambda^G$  and  $\varphi_i := \varphi|_{Z_m} : Z_m \rightarrow \Lambda_m^{W_m}$  for each  $m \in \llbracket 1, N \rrbracket$ . Thus we have a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \Gamma_q & \xrightarrow{\varphi|_{\Gamma_q}} & \Lambda^G \\ \uparrow f & & \uparrow g \\ Z_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes Z_N & \xrightarrow{\varphi_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \varphi_N} & \Lambda_1^{W_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \Lambda_N^{W_N} \end{array}$$

where the vertical arrows are given by multiplication. The horizontal maps and  $g$  are isomorphisms. Hence  $f$  is an isomorphism. Combining this fact with (2.19) we obtain the required isomorphism.  $\square$

## 2.6. Harish-Chandra subalgebras.

**Definition 2.6** (Harish-Chandra subalgebra). A subalgebra  $B$  of an algebra  $A$  is called a *Harish-Chandra subalgebra* provided  $BaB$  is finitely generated as a left and right  $B$ -module for any  $a \in A$ .

The following criterion for  $\Gamma$  to be a Harish-Chandra subalgebra of a Galois  $\Gamma$ -ring was given in [FO1].

**Proposition 2.7.** [FO1, Proposition 5.1] *Let  $U \subseteq (L * \mathcal{M})^G$  be a Galois  $\Gamma$ -ring, where  $\Gamma$  is finitely generated as a  $\mathbb{C}$ -algebra. Then  $\Gamma$  is a Harish-Chandra subalgebra of  $U$  if and only if  $m \cdot \bar{\Gamma} = \bar{\Gamma}$  for every  $m \in \mathcal{M}$ , where  $\bar{\Gamma}$  denotes the integral closure of  $\Gamma$  in  $L$ .*

In [MT, Proposition 1], the following result was stated and a method of proof was suggested. We give a short proof using Galois rings.

**Proposition 2.8** ([MT]). *The Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra  $\Gamma_q$  of  $U_q = U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is a Harish-Chandra subalgebra.*

*Proof.* We will use Proposition 2.7. By Theorem 2.4(v), in the realization of  $U_q$  as a Galois algebra,  $\Gamma = \Lambda^G$  and  $\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{Z}^{N(N-1)/2}$ . It is enough to prove that  $m \cdot \Gamma \subseteq \bar{\Gamma}, \forall m \in \mathcal{M}$ . Since  $m$  acts by automorphisms, it is further enough to prove that  $m \cdot X \subseteq \bar{\Gamma}$  for some generating set  $X$  of  $\Gamma$ , for  $m$  in some generating set of  $\mathcal{M}$ . Since  $\Lambda^G \simeq \Lambda_1^{W_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \Lambda_N^{W_N}$ , it follows from [FH, Lemma 5.3] that  $\Lambda^G$  is generated by

$$\begin{aligned} x_{rs} &:= e_{rs}(X_{r1}^2, \dots, X_{rr}^2), \quad 1 \leq s < r \leq N, \\ x_{rr}^{\pm 1} &:= (X_{r1}X_{r2} \cdots X_{rr})^{\pm 1}, \quad 1 \leq r \leq N, \end{aligned}$$

where  $e_{rs}$  is the elementary symmetric polynomial in  $r$  variables of degree  $s$ . Recall that the action of  $\mathcal{M}$  on  $L = \text{Frac}(\Lambda)$  is given by  $\delta^{ji} \cdot X_{rs} = q^{-\delta_{jr}\delta_{is}} X_{rs}$ . We have  $\delta^{ji} \cdot x_{rr}^{\pm 1} = q^{\mp \delta_{jr}} x_{rr}^{\pm 1}$  which even belongs to  $\Gamma$ , hence to  $\bar{\Gamma}$ . For the other generators, first recall the splitting polynomial for  $L/K$  [FH], where  $K = L^G = \text{Frac}(\Gamma)$ :

$$p(x) = \prod_{j=1}^N (x^2 - X_{j1}^2)(x^2 - X_{j2}^2) \cdots (x^2 - X_{jj}^2)(x - X_{j1}X_{j2} \cdots X_{jj}).$$

Since  $p(x) \in \Gamma[x]$ , it is clear that all  $X_{jr} \in \bar{\Gamma}$ , hence  $\Lambda_+ \subseteq \bar{\Gamma}$ , where  $\Lambda_+ := \mathbb{C}[X_{ji} \mid 1 \leq i \leq j \leq N]$ . In particular, it follows immediately that  $\delta^{ji} \cdot x_{rs} \in \Lambda_+ \subseteq \bar{\Gamma}$  for  $s < r$ .  $\square$

## 3. GALOIS ORDERS

We recall the definition of Galois orders from [FO1].

**Definition 3.1** (Galois order). A Galois  $\Gamma$ -ring is a *right* (respectively *left*) *Galois  $\Gamma$ -order* if for any finite dimensional right (respectively left)  $K$ -subspace  $W \subseteq UK$  (respectively  $W \subseteq KU$ ),  $W \cap U$  is a finitely generated right (respectively left)  $\Gamma$ -module. A Galois ring is Galois order if it is both right and left Galois order.

**Proposition 3.2** ([FO1]). *Let  $U$  be a Galois  $\Gamma$ -ring. Then  $U$  is a Galois  $\Gamma$ -order if and only if the following two conditions hold:*

- (i)  $\Gamma$  is a Harish-Chandra subalgebra of  $U$ ;
- (ii)

$$\forall u \in U, \gamma \in \Gamma \setminus \{0\} : (u\gamma \in \Gamma \vee \gamma u \in \Gamma) \implies u \in \Gamma. \quad (3.1)$$

The following result shows that under certain circumstances, condition (3.1) may be replaced by the condition that  $\Gamma$  be maximal commutative in  $U$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $U \subseteq (L * \mathcal{M})^G$  be a Galois  $\Gamma$ -ring where  $\Gamma$  is a Harish-Chandra subalgebra of  $U$ . Then the following two statements hold:*

- (i) *If  $\Gamma$  is a maximal commutative subalgebra of  $U$ , then  $U$  is a Galois  $\Gamma$ -order;*
- (ii) *If  $U$  is a Galois  $\Gamma$ -order,  $\mathcal{M}$  is a group and  $\Gamma$  is finitely generated and normal, then  $\Gamma$  is a maximal commutative subalgebra of  $U$ .*

*Proof.* (i) Suppose  $\Gamma$  is maximal commutative in  $U$ . By Proposition 3.2, it is enough to show that (3.1) holds. Suppose that  $u\gamma \in \Gamma$  for some  $u \in U$ ,  $\gamma \in \Gamma \setminus \{0\}$ . Since  $\Gamma$  is commutative we get

$$\gamma_1 u \gamma = u \gamma \gamma_1 = u \gamma_1 \gamma, \quad \forall \gamma_1 \in \Gamma.$$

Since  $U$  is torsion-free as a right  $\Gamma$ -module, this implies that  $\gamma_1 u = u \gamma_1$  for all  $\gamma_1 \in \Gamma$ . This forces  $u \in \Gamma$ , since  $\Gamma$  is a maximal commutative subalgebra of  $U$ . The case  $\gamma u \in \Gamma$  is analogous.

(ii) We follow the proof of [FMO2, Corollary 6.7]. By [FO1, Theorem 4.1(3)],  $U \cap K$  is a maximal commutative subalgebra of  $U$ , so it suffices to show that  $U \cap K = \Gamma$ . By [FO1, Theorem 5.2(2)],  $U \cap Le$  is an integral extension of  $\Gamma$ , where  $Le = \{\lambda e \mid \lambda \in L\} \subseteq L * \mathcal{M}$  and  $e \in \mathcal{M}$  is the neutral element. Hence  $U \cap K$  is an also an integral extension of  $\Gamma$ . Since  $\Gamma$  is normal,  $U \cap K = \Gamma$ .  $\square$

#### 4. $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ IS A GALOIS ORDER

In this section we give a proof that  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is a Galois order. The main technical result is the following theorem which determines the leading terms of the generators  $d_{rs}$  of  $\Gamma_q$  with respect to the De Concini-Kac filtration.

**Theorem 4.1.** *The leading term of  $d_{rs}$  (see (2.13)), with respect to the De Concini-Kac filtration using (2.1) as decomposition of the longest Weyl group element, is obtained by taking*

$$\sigma = (1 \ 2 \ \cdots \ r)^s.$$

*in the sum (2.13). That is,*

$$\text{lt}(d_{rs}) = \lambda \cdot t_{1+s,1}^{(0)} t_{2+s,2}^{(0)} \cdots t_{r,r-s}^{(0)} \cdot t_{1,r-s+1}^{(1)} t_{2,r-s+2}^{(1)} \cdots t_{s,r}^{(1)} \quad (4.1)$$

*for some nonzero  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ .*

**Example 4.2.** As an example, we determine directly the leading term of  $d_{42}$ . The most significant component of the total degree (2.4) is the height. Using (4.2)-(4.3), it is easy to see that there are four permutations in  $S_4$  which gives the maximal possible height 8:

$$(13)(24), \quad (14)(23), \quad (1324), \quad (1423).$$

The monomial associated to such a permutation  $\sigma$  is

$$t_{\sigma(1)1}^{(k_1)} t_{\sigma(2)2}^{(k_2)} t_{\sigma(3)3}^{(k_3)} t_{\sigma(4)4}^{(k_4)}$$



where  $k_i = 0$  if  $\sigma(i) > i$  and  $k_i = 1$  if  $\sigma(i) < i$ . After the height we need to compare the exponent of  $F_{\beta_{34}}$  in the four different monomials, because  $\beta_{34}$  is the largest positive root in the ordering

$$\beta_{12} < \beta_{13} < \beta_{14} < \beta_{23} < \beta_{24} < \beta_{34}$$

(see (2.2)). This exponent is the same as the exponent (either 1 or 0) of  $t_{43}^{(0)}$  due to the identifications (2.9). But this exponent is 0 in all four cases because none of the permutations map 3 to 4.

So we look at the second largest positive root, which is  $\beta_{24}$ . As in the previous case, we ask if  $\sigma(2) = 4$  in any of the four permutations. There are two for which this holds, (13)(24) and (1324). The others do not map 2 to 4 which means their corresponding monomials are of lower total degree.

To compare the two candidates (13)(24) and (1324) we look at the third largest root,  $\beta_{23}$ . But  $\sigma(2) \neq 3$  in both. Next is  $\beta_{14}$  but again  $\sigma(1) \neq 4$  in both. Next is  $\beta_{13}$  and now  $\sigma(1) = 3$  for both  $\sigma = (13)(24)$  and  $\sigma = (1324)$ . Next is  $\beta_{12}$  and  $\sigma(1) \neq 2$  in both. So we still don't know which monomial is largest. We have compared the 1 + 6 biggest components of the total degree, namely the height and the 6 exponents of the negative root vectors  $F_\beta$ .

Thus we turn to comparing the remaining 6 exponents of the positive root vectors  $E_\beta$ . Now care must be taken since, by (2.4), these are ordered in reverse relative to the positive roots themselves. Therefore, the next component to compare is the exponent of  $E_{\beta_{12}}$  because  $\beta_{12}$  is the smallest root. By (2.9), this is the same as the exponent of  $t_{12}^{(1)}$  so we check if the permutations satisfy  $\sigma(2) = 1$ . None of them do, so we move on, checking  $E_{\beta_{13}}$  which amounts to checking if  $\sigma(3) = 1$ . Here we finally get a discrepancy, (13)(24) satisfies this, but (1324) does not. Therefore (13)(24) is the permutation that gives the leading term in  $d_{42}$ .

Of course,  $(13)(24) = (1234)^2$ , so this proves Theorem 4.1 in the case  $(r, s) = (4, 2)$ .

The following notation will be used for a permutation  $\sigma \in S_r$ :

$$c_<(\sigma) = \#\{i \in [1, r] \mid \sigma(i) < i\}, \quad c_>(\sigma) = \#\{i \in [1, r] \mid \sigma(i) > i\}.$$

The following lemma describes which nonzero terms appear in  $d_{rs}$ .

**Lemma 4.3.** *Let  $s \in [1, r]$  and let  $\sigma \in S_r$ . Then the following two statements are equivalent.*

- (i)  $t_{\sigma(1)1}^{(k_1)} t_{\sigma(2)2}^{(k_2)} \cdots t_{\sigma(r)r}^{(k_r)} \neq 0$  for some  $k \in \{0, 1\}^r$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^r k_i = s$ ;
- (ii)  $c_<(\sigma) \leq s$  and  $c_>(\sigma) \leq r - s$ .

*Proof.* This follows from the fact that  $t_{ij}^{(1)} \neq 0$  iff  $i \leq j$  and  $t_{ij}^{(0)} \neq 0$  iff  $i \geq j$ .  $\square$

Define the *height* of a permutation  $\sigma \in S_r$  by

$$\text{ht}(\sigma) := \sum_{i=1}^r |\sigma(i) - i|. \quad (4.2)$$

The motivation for this terminology comes from the fact that

$$\text{ht}(\sigma) = \text{ht}(t_{\sigma(1)1}^{(k_1)} t_{\sigma(2)2}^{(k_2)} \cdots t_{\sigma(r)r}^{(k_r)}) \quad (4.3)$$

where the right hand side is given by (2.5) and the identification (2.9).

As the next step towards proving Theorem 4.1, we show that the permutation  $\sigma$  which gives the leading term of  $d_{rs}$  has to be a derangement (i.e.  $\sigma(i) \neq i \forall i \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$ ).

**Lemma 4.4.** *Let  $s \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$  and let  $\sigma \in S_r$  be a permutation such that*

$$t_{\sigma(1)1}^{(k_1)} t_{\sigma(2)2}^{(k_2)} \cdots t_{\sigma(r)r}^{(k_r)} \neq 0$$

*for some  $k \in \{0, 1\}^r$  with  $\sum_i k_i = s$ . Then there exists a  $\tilde{\sigma} \in S_r$  such that*

- (i)  $t_{\tilde{\sigma}(1)1}^{(l_1)} \cdots t_{\tilde{\sigma}(r)r}^{(l_r)} \neq 0$  for some  $l \in \{0, 1\}^r$  with  $\sum_i l_i = s$ ;
- (ii)  $t_{\tilde{\sigma}(1)1}^{(l_1)} \cdots t_{\tilde{\sigma}(r)r}^{(l_r)} \geq t_{\sigma(1)1}^{(k_1)} \cdots t_{\sigma(r)r}^{(k_r)}$ ;
- (iii)  $\tilde{\sigma}$  is a derangement.

*In particular, the permutation  $\sigma$  such that (4.1) holds (for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^\times$  and  $k \in \{0, 1\}^r$  with  $\sum_i k_i = s$ ) must be a derangement.*

*Proof.* If  $\sigma$  already is a derangement, there is nothing to prove (take  $\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma$ ). So suppose  $f := \#\{i \in S_r \mid \sigma(i) = i\} > 0$ . It is enough to construct  $\tilde{\sigma}$  satisfying properties (i)-(ii) with  $\#\{i \in S_r \mid \tilde{\sigma}(i) = i\} = f - 1$  because then we can iterate this construction to arrive at a permutation satisfying all three conditions (i)-(iii).

We introduce some terminology. An element  $(i_1, i_2) \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket^2$  is called a  $\sigma$ -drop (respectively  $\sigma$ -jump) provided  $\sigma(i_1) = i_2$  and  $i_2 < i_1$  (respectively  $i_2 > i_1$ ). As a visual support we will draw parts of permutations as graphs with vertices on a square lattice, vertices  $(a, b)$  and  $(a + 1, d)$  connected iff  $\sigma(b) = d$ . See Figure 1 for an example. Then drops and jumps are simply as in Figure 2.

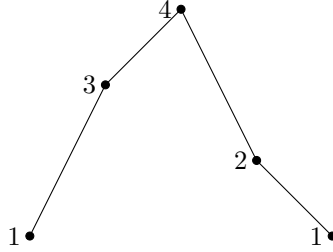


FIGURE 1. Pictorial representation of the cyclic permutation (1432).

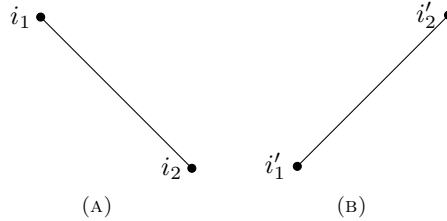


FIGURE 2. A  $\sigma$ -drop (A) and a  $\sigma$ -jump (B). The diagrams mean  $i_2 = \sigma(i_1)$ ,  $i_1 > i_2$  and  $i'_2 = \sigma(i'_1)$ ,  $i'_1 < i'_2$ .

A  $\sigma$ -drop  $(i_1, i_2)$  will be called *drop-admissible* if we can “add another drop between  $i_1$  and  $i_2$ ”, that is, if there exists  $j \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$  with  $\sigma(j) = j$  and  $i_2 < j < i_1$ . Then we can put  $\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma \circ (i_1 j)$ . With this  $\tilde{\sigma}$  we have

$$c_{<}(\tilde{\sigma}) = c_{<}(\sigma) + 1, \quad c_{>}(\tilde{\sigma}) = c_{>}(\sigma).$$

Similarly, a  $\sigma$ -drop  $(i_1, i_2)$  is *jump-admissible* if there exists  $j \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$  with  $\sigma(j) = j$  and  $j \notin \llbracket i_2, i_1 \rrbracket$ . Then  $\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma \circ (i_1 j)$  satisfies

$$c_{<}(\tilde{\sigma}) = c_{<}(\sigma), \quad c_{>}(\tilde{\sigma}) = c_{>}(\sigma) + 1.$$

See Figure 3 for an illustration of the possible scenarios in the case of a  $\sigma$ -drop.

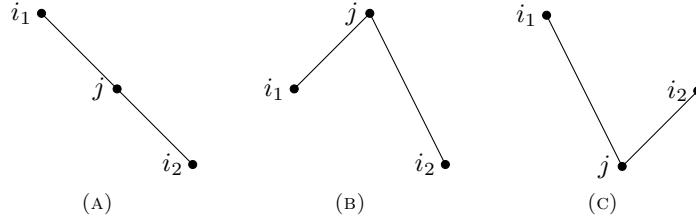


FIGURE 3. The three possible ways the  $i_1, j, i_2$  piece of  $\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma \circ (i_1 j)$  can look like, when  $(i_1, i_2)$  is a  $\sigma$ -drop:  $i_1 < j < i_2$  (A),  $j > i_1, i_2$  (B), and  $j < i_1, i_2$  (C). The  $\sigma$ -drop  $(i_1, i_2)$  is drop-admissible in case (A), and jump-admissible in (B) and (C).

Analogously, a  $\sigma$ -jump  $(i_1, i_2)$  is *jump-admissible* if  $\exists j \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$  with  $\sigma(j) = j$  and  $i_1 < j < i_2$ . A  $\sigma$ -jump  $(i_1, i_2)$  is *drop-admissible* if  $\exists j \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$  with  $\sigma(j) = j$  and  $j \notin \llbracket i_1, i_2 \rrbracket$ .

We will now show that there always exists a jump-admissible  $\sigma$ -drop or  $\sigma$ -jump.

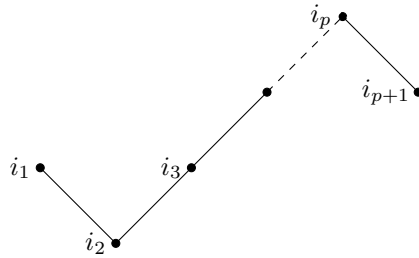


FIGURE 4. Illustration of a permutation  $\sigma$  satisfying conditions (a)-(d).

We know that  $\sigma$  is not the identity permutation since  $\sum_i k_i = s \geq 1$ . Thus there exists a tuple  $(i_1, i_2, \dots, i_p, i_{p+1}) \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket^{p+1}$ , where  $p > 2$ , such that (see Figure 4)

- (a)  $i_{j+1} = \sigma(i_j)$  for  $j \in \llbracket 1, p \rrbracket$ ;
- (b)  $i_1 > i_2$ ;
- (c)  $i_j < i_{j+1}$  for  $j \in \llbracket 2, p-1 \rrbracket$ ;
- (d)  $i_p > i_{p+1}$ .

Note that we do not exclude the possibility that  $(i_p, i_{p+1}) = (i_1, i_2)$ . Also, since  $\sigma$  is not a derangement, there is some  $j \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket \setminus \{i_1, \dots, i_{p+1}\}$  fixed by  $\sigma$ .

If  $j \notin \llbracket i_2, i_1 \rrbracket$ , then  $(i_1, i_2)$  is a jump-admissible  $\sigma$ -drop (as in case (B) or (C) in Figure 3). So suppose  $i_1 > j > i_2$ . If  $j < i_p$  then  $(i_a, i_{a+1})$  is a jump-admissible  $\sigma$ -jump for the  $a \in \llbracket 2, p-1 \rrbracket$  with  $i_a < p < i_{a+1}$ . So suppose  $j > i_p$ . Then  $(i_p, i_{p+1})$  is a jump-admissible  $\sigma$ -drop. This proves that, provided  $\sigma(j) = j$  for some  $j$ , there always exists a jump-admissible  $\sigma$ -drop or  $\sigma$ -jump.

Similarly one proves there always exists a drop-admissible  $\sigma$ -drop or  $\sigma$ -jump.

If  $c_<(\sigma) < s$  then we add a drop by putting  $\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma \circ (i \ j)$  where  $(i, \sigma(i))$  is a drop-admissible  $\sigma$ -drop or  $\sigma$ -jump. Then  $\tilde{\sigma}$  will have one more drop than  $\sigma$  but the same number of jumps. That is,  $c_<(\tilde{\sigma}) = c_<(\sigma) + 1 \leq s$  and  $c_>(\tilde{\sigma}) = c_>(\sigma) \leq r - s$  which by Lemma 4.3 ensures that property (i) is satisfied.

Analogously, if instead  $c_>(\sigma) < r - s$  we add a jump by putting  $\tilde{\sigma} = \sigma \circ (i \ j)$  for appropriate  $i$ .

Clearly  $\tilde{\sigma}$  has one less fixpoint than  $\sigma$ .

It remains to verify that property (ii) holds. The change from  $\sigma$  to  $\tilde{\sigma}$  has the following effect on monomials:

$$t_{jj}^{(k_j)} t_{\sigma(i)i}^{(k_i)} \mapsto t_{\tilde{\sigma}(j)j}^{(k_j)} t_{\tilde{\sigma}(i)i}^{(k_i)} = t_{\sigma(i)j}^{(k_j)} t_{ji}^{(k_i)}$$

(unchanged factors omitted).

If  $j$  is not between  $i$  and  $\sigma(i)$ , then by definition of the height (4.2) one checks that  $\text{ht}(\tilde{\sigma}) > \text{ht}(\sigma)$  so (ii) holds by just looking at the height, which is the most significant part of the total degree (see (2.4)).

If  $j$  is between  $i$  and  $\sigma(i)$ , then  $\text{ht}(\tilde{\sigma}) = \text{ht}(\sigma)$  so we must compare roots in order to establish property (ii).

Suppose  $i < j < \sigma(i)$ . Then the change from  $\sigma$  to  $\tilde{\sigma}$  corresponds to

$$t_{\sigma(i)i}^{(0)} t_{jj}^{(k_j)} \mapsto t_{\sigma(i)j}^{(0)} t_{ji}^{(0)}$$

The change in total degrees is

$$d(F_{\beta_{i,\sigma(i)}}) \mapsto d(F_{\beta_{j,\sigma(i)}} F_{\beta_{ij}})$$

Since  $\beta_{j,\sigma(i)} > \beta_{i,\sigma(i)}, \beta_{i,j}$  (recall the ordering (2.2)) it follows that property (ii) holds in this case. The case  $i > j > \sigma(i)$  is analogous, keeping in mind that  $E_\beta$  are ordered in reverse. The proof is finished.  $\square$

The following result describes the height of the permutation giving rise to the leading term.

**Lemma 4.5.** *Fix  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$  and let  $s \in \llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$ . Let  $\sigma \in S_r$  be the permutation which gives rise to the leading term of  $d_{rs}$ . That is,*

$$\text{lt}(d_{rs}) = \lambda t_{\sigma(1)1}^{(k_1)} t_{\sigma(2)2}^{(k_2)} \cdots t_{\sigma(r)r}^{(k_r)} \quad (4.4)$$

for some nonzero  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and some  $k \in \{0, 1\}^r$  with  $\sum_i k_i = s$ . Then

$$\text{ht}(\sigma) = 2s(r - s). \quad (4.5)$$

*Proof.* First we prove that  $\text{ht}(\sigma) \geq 2s(r - s)$ . Let  $\tau = (1 \ 2 \ \cdots \ r)^s$ . We show that  $\text{ht}(\tau) = 2s(r - s)$ . Since

$$\tau(i) = \begin{cases} i + s, & i + s \leq r \\ i + s - r, & i + s > r \end{cases}$$

we have by definition of  $\text{ht}(\tau)$

$$\text{ht}(\tau) = \sum_{i=1}^{r-s} (i + s - i) + \sum_{i=r-s+1}^r (i - (i + s - r)) = 2s(r - s).$$

Since (4.4) is the leading term of  $d_{rs}$ , we in particular have  $\text{ht}(\sigma) \geq \text{ht}(\tau) = 2s(r - s)$  by definition of total degree of a monomial (2.4).

It remains to show that  $\text{ht}(\sigma) \leq 2s(r - s)$ . By Lemma 4.4,  $\sigma$  is a derangement. Thus

$$\text{ht}(\sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^r |\sigma(i) - i| = \sum_{i: \sigma(i) < i} (i - \sigma(i)) + \sum_{i: \sigma(i) > i} (\sigma(i) - i),$$

where the first sum has  $s$  terms and the second has  $r - s$  terms. Clearly we have the estimate

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i: \sigma(i) < i} (i - \sigma(i)) + \sum_{i: \sigma(i) > i} (\sigma(i) - i) \\ & \leq (r + (r - 1) + \cdots + (r - s + 1)) - (1 + 2 + \cdots + s) \\ & \quad + (r + (r - 1) + \cdots + (s + 1)) - (1 + 2 + \cdots + (r - s)) = 2s(r - s). \end{aligned}$$

This proves the claim.  $\square$

We are now ready to prove Theorem 4.1.

*Proof of Theorem 4.1.* The case  $r = s$  is trivial: By (2.13),  $d_{rr} = \lambda \cdot t_{11}^{(1)} \cdots t_{rr}^{(1)}$ , where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^\times$ . Thus  $d_{rr}$  has only one term, corresponding to the identity permutation (1). Thus the conjecture holds in this case because  $(1 \ 2 \ \cdots \ r)^r = (1)$ . So we may assume  $s < r$ .

Let  $\sigma \in S_r$  be the permutation which gives rise to the leading term of  $d_{rs}$ . That is,

$$\text{lt}(d_{rs}) = \lambda t_{\sigma(1)1}^{(k_1)} t_{\sigma(2)2}^{(k_2)} \cdots t_{\sigma(r)r}^{(k_r)}$$

for some nonzero  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$  and some  $k \in \{0, 1\}^r$  with  $\sum_i k_i = s$ . By Lemma 4.4,  $\sigma$  is a derangement. In particular,  $k$  is uniquely determined:  $k_i = 0$  iff  $\sigma(i) > i$  and  $k_i = 1$  iff  $\sigma(i) < i$ . Moreover, since  $\sigma$  is a derangement, Lemma 4.3 implies that

$$s = \#\{i \in [1, r] \mid \sigma(i) < i\}. \quad (4.6)$$

We will now show that

$$\sigma^{-1}(r) = r - s. \quad (4.7)$$

This is equivalent to that  $t_{r, r-s}^{(0)}$  occurs in  $\text{lt}(d_{rs})$ . By (2.9) and that the  $K_i$  don't contribute to the total degree, we have  $d(t_{r, r-s}^{(0)}) = d(F_{\beta_{r-s, r}})$ . To show (4.7), note that  $t_{r, r-s}^{(0)}$  occurs in the monomial corresponding to  $\tau = (1 \ 2 \ \cdots \ r)^s$ . Thus it is enough to prove that if  $t_{ji}^{(0)}$  occurs in the leading monomial of  $d_{rs}$  then  $\beta_{ij} \leq \beta_{r-s, r}$ .

Suppose the opposite is true, i.e. that  $\sigma^{-1}(j_0) = i_0 \in [r - s + 1, j_0 - 1]$  for some  $j_0$  with  $i_0 < j_0 \leq r$ . We show that this leads to a contradiction in the height of  $\sigma$ . We have

$$\text{ht}(\sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^r |\sigma(i) - i| = \sum_{i: \sigma(i) < i} (i - \sigma(i)) + \sum_{i: \sigma(i) > i} (\sigma(i) - i). \quad (4.8)$$

The first sum has  $s$  elements, by (4.6), and the second one has  $r - s$  terms, since  $\sigma$  is a derangement. Since  $\sigma(i_0) = j_0 > i_0$ , we may estimate the first sum from above by assuming that  $i$  runs through the  $s$  largest elements of  $\llbracket 1, r \rrbracket \setminus \{i_0\}$ , and  $\sigma(i)$  just runs through the  $s$  smallest elements of  $\llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$ . That is,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i: \sigma(i) < i} (i - \sigma(i)) &\leq (r + (r-1) + \cdots + (r-s) - i_0) - (1 + 2 + \cdots + s) \\ &= r - i_0 + s(r-s-1). \end{aligned} \quad (4.9)$$

On the other hand,  $i_0$  does belong to the summation range of the other sum and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i: \sigma(i) > i} (\sigma(i) - i) &\leq (r + (r-1) + \cdots + (s+1)) - (1 + 2 + \cdots + (r-s-1) + i_0) \\ &= (r-s-1)s + r - i_0, \end{aligned} \quad (4.10)$$

i.e. the sum of the  $r-s$  largest elements of  $\llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$  minus the smallest sum of  $r-s$  elements of  $\llbracket 1, r \rrbracket$  requiring that one of them is  $i_0$ . Combining (4.8)-(4.10) we obtain

$$\text{ht}(\sigma) \leq 2(r-s-i_0) + 2s(r-s) < 2s(r-s) \quad (4.11)$$

since  $i_0 > r-s$  by assumption. This contradicts Lemma 4.5 and finishes the proof of (4.7).

Then, since  $\beta_{r-s-1, r-1}$  is the largest positive root of the form  $\beta_{r-s-1, j}$  where  $j < r$ ,  $\beta_{r-s-2, r-2}$  is the largest positive root of the form  $\beta_{r-s-2, j}$  with  $j < r-1$ , and so on, we conclude that the leading term of  $d_{rs}$  must have the form

$$\lambda \cdot t_{1+s,1}^{(0)} t_{2+s,2}^{(0)} \cdots t_{r,r-s}^{(0)} \cdot t_{\sigma(r-s+1), r-s+1}^{(k_1)} \cdots t_{\sigma(r), r}^{(k_s)}.$$

But  $\sum k_i = s$  which forces  $k_i = 1$  for  $i \in \llbracket 1, s \rrbracket$ . So  $\sigma(i) < i$  for  $i \in \llbracket r-s+1, r \rrbracket$ . Since  $d(t_{ij}^{(1)}) = d(E_{\beta_{ij}})$  for  $i < j$  and by definition (2.4) of the total degree, the  $E_\beta$  are ordered in *reverse* with respect to the order of the positive roots  $\beta$ , we are led to the question: What is the smallest possible root  $\beta_{ij}$  ( $i < j$ ) which may still occur in the monomial?

We know that  $\{\sigma(r-s+1), \sigma(r-s+2), \dots, \sigma(r)\} = \{1, 2, \dots, s\}$ . Thus, the smallest root we can get is  $\beta_{1, r-s+1}$ , obtained iff  $\sigma(r-s+1) = 1$ . But this happens for the permutation  $\tau = (1 \ 2 \ \cdots \ r)^s$ . So, to have any chance of getting a larger monomial we must continue. But at each step we see that the smallest possible root is  $\beta_{i, r-s+i}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, s$ . This proves that  $(1 \ 2 \ \cdots \ r)^s$  indeed is the permutation that gives the leading term of  $d_{rs}$ .  $\square$

Define

$$X(r, s) = t_{sr}^{(1)} \quad (4.12)$$

for each  $1 \leq s \leq r \leq N$ . Then, by Theorem 4.1,  $X(r, s)$  occurs in the leading term of  $d_{rs}$  and does not occur in the leading term of any other  $d_{ab}$ ,  $(a, b) \neq (r, s)$ .

For  $u \in U_q$  we let  $\text{lt}(u) \in \text{gr } U_q$  denote the corresponding leading term.

**Lemma 4.6.** *Let  $\gamma \in \Gamma_q$ . Then*

$$\text{lt}(\gamma) = \text{lt}\left(\mu \prod_{1 \leq s \leq r \leq N} d_{rs}^{k_{rs}}\right)$$

for some  $\mu \in \mathbb{C}^\times$ ,  $k_{rs} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \ \forall s < r$  and  $k_{rr} \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Moreover  $k_{rs}$  is the number of occurrences of  $X(r, s)$  in  $\text{lt}(\gamma)$ .

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.5,  $\Gamma_q$  is a semi-Laurent polynomial algebra in the  $d_{rs}$ :

$$\Gamma_q \simeq \mathbb{C}[d_{rs} \mid 1 \leq s \leq r \leq N][d_{rr}^{-1} \mid 1 \leq r \leq N].$$

The number of occurrences of  $X(r, s)$  in  $\prod_{r,s} \text{lt}(d_{rs})^{k_{rs}}$  is equal to  $k_{rs}$ . Thus

$$\prod \text{lt}(d_{rs})^{k_{rs}} = \prod \text{lt}(d_{rs})^{l_{rs}} \implies k_{rs} = l_{rs} \forall r, s.$$

This in turn implies that the set

$$\left\{ \prod_{r,s} d_{rs}^{k_{rs}} \mid k_{rs} \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \forall s < r, k_{rr} \in \mathbb{Z} \right\}$$

is totally ordered. Thus, for any  $\gamma \in \Gamma_q$  we have  $\text{lt}(\gamma) = \text{lt}(\lambda \prod d_{rs}^{k_{rs}})$  where  $k_{rs}$  equals the number of occurrences of  $X(r, s)$  in  $\text{lt}(\gamma)$ . This proves the claim.  $\square$

An algebra of the form

$$A(Q, m, n) = \mathbb{C}\langle a_1, \dots, a_m, a_{m+1}^{\pm 1}, \dots, a_n^{\pm 1} \mid a_i a_j = Q_{ij} a_j a_i \forall i < j, \\ a_k a_k^{-1} = 1 = a_k^{-1} a_k, k > m \rangle$$

for some  $Q_{ij} \in \mathbb{C}^\times$ , will be called a *quantum semi-Laurent polynomial algebra*.

Now we can prove Theorem I from Introduction.

**Theorem 4.7.**  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is a Galois order with respect to its Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra.

*Proof.* Suppose  $u\gamma = \gamma_1$  for some  $u \in U, \gamma, \gamma_1 \in \Gamma \setminus \{0\}$ . Consider the leading terms on both sides. Since  $\text{gr } U_q$  is a quantum semi-Laurent polynomial algebra (by Theorem 2.2), it is in particular a domain. So

$$\text{lt}(u)\text{lt}(\gamma) = \text{lt}(u\gamma) = \text{lt}(\gamma_1).$$

We count the number  $k_{rs}$  of occurrences of the distinguished variable  $X(r, s)$  in  $\text{lt}(\gamma_1)$ , for each  $r, s$ . Then we count the number  $l_{rs}$  of occurrences of  $X(r, s)$  in  $\text{lt}(\gamma)$ . Then we look at

$$\tilde{u} = u - \lambda \prod_{1 \leq s \leq r \leq N} d_{rs}^{k_{rs} - l_{rs}}, \quad (4.13)$$

where  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}^\times$  is to be determined. We have

$$\tilde{u}\gamma = \gamma_1 - \lambda \prod_{r,s} d_{rs}^{k_{rs} - l_{rs}} \cdot \gamma.$$

By Lemma 4.6,

$$\text{lt}(\gamma_1) = \text{lt}(\mu \prod d_{rs}^{k_{rs}}), \quad \text{lt}(\gamma) = \text{lt}(\xi \prod d_{rs}^{l_{rs}})$$

for some  $\mu, \xi \in \mathbb{C}^\times$ . Thus

$$\text{lt}(\lambda \prod d_{rs}^{k_{rs} - l_{rs}} \cdot \gamma) = \lambda \cdot \text{lt}(\prod d_{rs}^{k_{rs} - l_{rs}}) \cdot \text{lt}(\gamma) = \lambda \xi \prod d_{rs}^{k_{rs}} = \text{lt}(\gamma_1)$$

provided we choose  $\lambda = \mu/\xi$ . Then  $\text{lt}(\tilde{u}\gamma) < \text{lt}(u\gamma)$ . By induction we are reduced to the case when the total degree  $d(u\gamma) = d(\gamma)$  which implies that  $\text{lt}(u)$ , hence  $u$  has degree  $(0, 0, \dots, 0) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{2M+1}$ , which means that  $u \in \mathbb{C}[K_1^{\pm 1}, \dots, K_N^{\pm 1}] \subseteq \Gamma_q$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

## 5. MAXIMAL COMMUTATIVITY OF GELFAND-TSETLIN SUBALGEBRAS

It is well known that the Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra of  $U(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is maximal commutative (see for example [O2]). It is also known that the Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra is maximal commutative in  $Y_p(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  and in any finite  $W$ -algebra ([FMO2, Corollary 6.7]). It is natural to ask if the analogous statement holds for  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ . This was explicitly conjectured to be the case by Mazorchuk and Turowska in [MT]. Using Theorem 4.7, we can now prove this conjecture, establishing our second main theorem.

**Theorem 5.1.** *The Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra of  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is maximal commutative.*

*Proof.* By Theorem 2.4,  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is a Galois ring with respect to  $\Gamma_q$ . In that realization,  $\mathcal{M}$  is a group. By Lemma 2.5,  $\Gamma_q$  is a finitely generated normal integral domain and by Proposition 2.8,  $\Gamma_q$  is a Harish-Chandra subalgebra. Thus, combining Theorem 4.7 and Proposition 3.3, it follows that  $\Gamma_q$  is a maximal commutative subalgebra of  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ .  $\square$

## 6. APPLICATION TO GELFAND-TSETLIN CHARACTERS

**6.1. Gelfand-Tsetlin modules over Galois orders.** We recall main results on the representations of Galois orders obtained in [FO2]. Let  $U$  be a Galois order over commutative noetherian subring  $\Gamma$ . All rings in this section are assumed to be algebras over an algebraically closed field.

Denote by  $\text{Specm } \Gamma$  the set of maximal ideals of  $\Gamma$ . A finitely generated module  $M$  over  $U$  is called a *Gelfand-Tsetlin module* with respect to  $\Gamma$  if

$$M = \bigoplus_{\mathfrak{m} \in \text{Specm } \Gamma} M(\mathfrak{m}),$$

where

$$M(\mathfrak{m}) = \{x \in M \mid \mathfrak{m}^k x = 0 \text{ for some } k \geq 0\}.$$

Given  $\mathfrak{m} \in \text{Specm } \Gamma$ , let  $F(\mathfrak{m})$  be the fiber of  $\mathfrak{m}$  consisting of isomorphism classes of irreducible Gelfand-Tsetlin  $U$ -modules  $M$  with respect to  $\Gamma$  such that  $M(\mathfrak{m}) \neq 0$ . Equivalently, this is the set of left maximal ideals of  $U$  containing  $\mathfrak{m}$  (up to some equivalence). If  $M$  is such irreducible module with  $M(\mathfrak{m}) \neq 0$  then we say that a character  $\mathfrak{m}$  *extends* to  $M$ . If any  $\mathfrak{m}$  has a finite fiber then one can use  $\text{Specm } \Gamma$  to get a "rough" classification (up to some finiteness) of irreducible Gelfand-Tsetlin  $U$ -modules.

Let  $\Lambda$  be the integral extension of  $\Gamma$  such that  $\Gamma = \Lambda^G$  and  $\varphi : \text{Specm } \Lambda \rightarrow \text{Specm } \Gamma$ . Then  $\varphi^{-1}(\mathfrak{m})$  is finite for any  $\mathfrak{m} \in \text{Specm } \Gamma$ . Fix any  $l_{\mathfrak{m}} \in \varphi^{-1}(\mathfrak{m})$ . Set

$$\text{St}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathfrak{m}) = \{x \in \mathcal{M} \mid x \cdot l_{\mathfrak{m}} = l_{\mathfrak{m}}\}.$$

The set  $\text{St}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathfrak{m})$  does not depend on the choice of  $l_{\mathfrak{m}}$ .

**Theorem 6.1.** (i) [FO2, Theorem A] *Let  $U$  be a Galois order over a finitely generated  $\Gamma$ ,  $\mathfrak{m} \in \text{Specm } \Gamma$ . If the set  $\text{St}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathfrak{m})$  is finite, then the fiber  $F(\mathfrak{m})$  is non-trivial and finite.*  
(ii) [FO2, Theorem B] *There exists a massive subset  $X \subset \text{Specm } \Gamma$  such that any  $\mathfrak{m} \in X$  extends uniquely to an irreducible Gelfand-Tsetlin module (up to an isomorphism).*



**6.2. Extension of characters for  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ .** For any  $\mathbf{m} \in \text{Specm } \Gamma_q$  the set  $\text{St}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{m})$  is finite. Since  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$  is a Galois order over the semi-Laurent polynomial Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra, then Theorem III follows immediately from Theorem 6.1. Hence, we obtain a classification of irreducible Gelfand-Tsetlin modules by the maximal ideals of  $\Gamma_q$  up to some finiteness which corresponds to the finite fibers of maximal ideals of  $\Gamma_q$  and up to some equivalence between maximal ideals (when they give isomorphic Gelfand-Tsetlin modules).

For a *generic*  $\mathbf{m} \in X$  from some dense subset  $X \subset \text{Specm } \Gamma_q$ ,  $\mathcal{M}$  acts freely on  $X$  and  $\mathcal{M} \cdot \mathbf{m} \cap G \cdot \mathbf{m} = \{\mathbf{m}\}$ . Therefore, if  $U = U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ , then  $U/U\mathbf{m}$  is an irreducible  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_N)$ -module for any  $\mathbf{m} \in X$ .

**6.3. Cardinality of the fibers for  $\mathfrak{gl}_2$ .** We show that the conjecture about the size of the fibers from the introduction holds for  $\mathfrak{gl}_2$ .

It is easy to check that  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_2)$  is isomorphic to the generalized Weyl algebra  $R(\sigma, t)$  where  $R = \mathbb{C}[K_1, K_1^{-1}, K_2, K_2^{-1}][t]$  where  $\sigma(t) = t + (K_1 K_2^{-1} - K_1^{-1} K_2)/(q - q^{-1})$ ,  $\sigma(K_i) = q^{\delta_{i2} - \delta_{i1}} K_i$ . Under this isomorphism, the Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra is identified with  $R$ . Since any generalized Weyl algebra is free over its distinguished subalgebra  $R$ , it follows that  $U_q(\mathfrak{gl}_2)$  is free as a right (and left) module over the Gelfand-Tsetlin subalgebra. Now using [FO2, Theorem 5.2(iii)] and [FO2, Lemma 3.7], analogously to the proof of [FO2, Corollary 6.1], we obtain the desired bound from the conjecture in this case.

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